AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for assisting collaboration between participants in a business community, comprising:

providing on a display device coupled to a data processing system a business view depicting a plurality of interlocked polygons illustrating interactions between the participants, the polygons being positioned relative to each other to define the participants for the interactions;

identifying interaction data including at least one of roles of the participants and information flow between the participants; and

electronically deriving an interaction view from the business view using said data processing system, the interaction view being provided on the display device and depicting the interaction data.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing, in the business view, an indication of the benefits from the interactions.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further including:

providing a component view depicting a system topology used by each participant.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein providing the component view includes depicting the availability of IT components.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein providing the component view includes depicting the activities of software components.

6. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for displaying collaboration between participants in a business community, comprising:

rendering, using a data processing system, a first graphical depiction of a sequence of interactions between different ones of the participants, the depiction including polygons being juxtaposed to indicate the sequence and participants of each of the interactions;

identifying flow data including at least one of roles of the participants and information flow between the participants; and

electronically rendering, using the data processing system, a second graphical depiction, derived from the first graphical depiction, of the flow data.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further including:

rendering a third graphical depiction depicting a system topology used by each participant.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the first graphical depiction includes representing a plurality of interactions depicted as interlocking polygons.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the graphical depictions includes vertically aligning representations of interactions involving one of the participants.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the graphical depictions includes vertically aligning representations of business benefits, wherein the business benefits correspond to at least one participant.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the graphical depictions includes vertically aligning representations of quantifiable business benefits, wherein the quantifiable business benefits provide a basis for ROI calculations.

12. (Original) The method of claim 6, further including producing a link from the first graphical depiction to the second graphical depiction.

13. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes providing additional information regarding interdependency of the participants.

14. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting a sequence of activities.

15. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting information sharing between participants.

16. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting roles in the collaboration.

17. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein rendering the second graphical depiction includes depicting features in the collaboration.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein rendering the third graphical depiction includes depicting the availability of IT components.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein rendering the third graphical depiction includes depicting distributed and centralized systems.

20. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the third graphical depiction is derived from the second graphical depiction and contains additional information regarding the collaboration between participants.

21. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method of displaying a value chain optimization in a collaborative business scenario, comprising:

identifying participants in the collaborative business scenario and activities of the participants; and

electronically displaying a first view, using a data processing system, the view including a plurality of interlocking polygons depicting the activities of the participants in transactions, wherein the polygons corresponding to each participant are vertically aligned and business benefits of the collaborative business scenario are shown in a vertical arrangement.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

displaying a second view including

participants of the collaborative business scenario;

activities of the participants illustrated as interlocking polygons;

information flow between the participants illustrated as lines linking the interlocking polygons; and

connectors illustrating a direction of document exchange.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further including displaying a third view including:

a system topology at a business site of one of the participants.

24. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for creating a collaboration between participants in a business scenario, comprising of:

accepting, into a data processing system, information:

identifying a collaborative business, participants in the collaborative business, and activities of the participants;

identifying functionality of the activities;

identifying at least one of roles of the participants and information flow between the participants;

identifying system requirements used to implement the collaborative business;

identifying quantitative and qualitative business benefits based on a collaboration between participants;

identifying an industry and corresponding solution maps relating to the collaborative business; and

creating, in a data processing system, a collaboration for sharing a portion of the information accepted.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the participants include consumers, enterprises, or electronic marketplaces.

26. (Previously Presented) A system for displaying collaboration between participants in a business community, comprising:

first rendering means for rendering a first graphical depiction of a sequence of interactions between the participants, the interactions being depicted as polygons juxtaposed to indicate the sequence and the participants;

identifying means for identifying flow data including at least one of roles of the participants and information flow between the participants; and

second rendering means for rendering a second graphical depiction, derived from the first graphical depiction, containing the flow data.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, further comprising:

third rendering means for rendering a third graphical depiction depicting a system topology used by each participant.

28. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the first rendering means renders the interactions depicted as interlocking polygons.

29. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the first rendering means further comprises aligning means for vertically aligning representations of interactions involving one of the participants.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the first rendering means further comprises aligning means for vertically aligning representations of business benefits, wherein the business benefits correspond to at least one participant.

31. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the first rendering means further comprises aligning means for vertically aligning representations of quantifiable business benefits, wherein the quantifiable business benefits provide a basis for ROI calculations.

32. (Original) The system of claim 26, further comprising producing means for producing a link from the first graphical depiction to the second graphical depiction.

33. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders additional information regarding interdependency of the participants in the second graphical depiction.

34. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders a sequence of activities.

35. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders information sharing between participants.

36. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders roles in the collaboration.

37. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein the second rendering means further renders features in the collaboration.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, wherein the third rendering means further renders the availability of IT components.

39. (Original) The system of claim 38, wherein the third rendering means further renders distributed and centralized systems.

40. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium for controlling a data processing system to perform a method for displaying collaboration between participants in a business community executed in a data processing system, the computer readable medium comprising:

a rendering module for rendering a first graphical depiction of a sequence of interactions between the participants, the interactions being depicted as polygons juxtaposed to indicate the sequence and the participants;

an identification module for identifying flow data including at least one of roles of the participants and information flow between the participants; and

a second rendering module for rendering a second graphical depiction, derived from the first graphical depiction, containing the flow data.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, further comprising:

a third rendering module for rendering a third graphical depiction depicting a system topology used by each participant.

42. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the rendering module includes a representing module for representing a plurality of interactions depicted as interlocking polygons.

43. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a representation module for vertically aligning representations of interactions involving one of the participants.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the rendering module includes, a representation module for vertically aligning representations of business benefits, wherein the business benefits correspond to at least one participant.

45. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the rendering module includes, a representation module for vertically aligning representations of quantifiable business benefits, wherein the quantifiable business benefits provide a basis for ROI calculations.

46. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 40, further including a producing module for producing a link from the first graphical depiction to the second graphical depiction.

47. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a providing module for providing additional information regarding interdependency of the participants.

48. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting a sequence of activities.

49. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting information sharing between participants.

50. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting roles in the collaboration.

51. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the second rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting features in the collaboration.

52. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 41, wherein the third rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting the availability of IT components.

53. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the third rendering module includes, a depicting module for depicting distributed and centralized systems.

54. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 51, wherein the third graphical depiction is derived from the second graphical depiction and contains additional information regarding the collaboration between participants.

55. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium for controlling a data processing system to perform a method for displaying a value chain optimization in a collaborative business scenario executed in a data processing system, the computer readable medium comprising:

an identification module for identifying participants in the collaborative business scenario and activities of the participants; and

a displaying module for displaying a first view including a plurality of interlocking polygons depicting the activities of the participants in business transactions, wherein the polygons corresponding to each participant are vertically aligned; and business benefits of the collaborative business scenario are shown in a vertical arrangement.

56. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 55, further comprising:

a displaying module for displaying a second view including

participants of the collaborative business scenario in vertical lanes;

activities of the participants depicted illustrated as interlocking polygons;

information flow between the participants illustrated as lines linking the interlocking polygons; and

connectors illustrating a direction of document exchange.

57. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 55, further including a displaying module for displaying a third view including:

a system topology at a particular participant's site.

58. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for assisting collaboration between participants in a business community, comprising:

providing on a display device coupled to a data processing system, a first view showing the participants, interactions between the participants, and defining the participants for the interactions;

identifying interaction data including at least one of roles of the participants and information flow between the participants;

electronically providing on the display device, using the data processing system, a second view showing the interaction data; and

providing on the display device, using the data processing system, a third view showing a system topology used by each participant.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein providing a first view comprises providing a first graphical view showing business benefits and value potential in addition to the participants, interactions between the participants, and defining the participants for the interactions.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein providing a second view comprises providing a second graphical view showing roles of the participants and details of the interactions in addition to the sequence of the interactions.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein providing a third view comprises providing a third graphical view showing availability of IT components.

62. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for assisting collaboration between participants in a business community, comprising:

creating, using a data processing system, a first view showing at least the participants and activities performed by the participants;

identifying interaction data including at least one of roles of the participants and information flow between the participants;

electronically creating, using the data processing system, a second view showing the interaction data;

creating, using the data processing system, a third view showing at least a system topology used by each participant; and

assisting the collaboration between the participants in the business community using the first, second, and third views.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, wherein creating a first view comprises creating a first graphical view showing at least business benefits and value potential in addition to the participants and activities.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, wherein creating a second view comprises creating a second graphical view showing at least roles of the participants and details of the activities in addition to the sequence of the activities.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, wherein creating a third view comprises creating a third graphical view showing at least availability of IT components.

66. (New) A computer-implemented method of displaying a value chain optimization in a collaborative business scenario, comprising:

identifying participants in the collaborative business scenario and activities of the participants, wherein at least a subset of the participants are from different enterprises;

providing on a display device coupled to a data processing system, a first view graphically showing the participants, interactions between the participants, and contributions made by the participants;

identifying interaction data including at least one of roles of the participants and information flow between the participants;

electronically providing on the display device, using the data processing system, a second view graphically showing the interaction data and a sequence of activities; and

providing on the display device, using the data processing system, a third view graphically showing a system topology used by each participant, the system topology including at least one of identification of computing systems and individual software components used by each participant.